

THE IMMORTAL WORDS OF

50c



Winston Churchill

MEMORABLE EXCERPTS FROM
HIS FAMOUS WARTIME SPEECHES

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*H*ow fortunate are we today
that when the existence of the free world
was threatened during the second World War
there was a Winston Churchill
to give inspiration and confidence and leadership
during the darkest hours
that the final victory might be attained.

We are at war,
and we are going to make war,
and persevere in making war,
until the other side
have had enough of it.

November 12, 1939
Broadcast address
on the first ten weeks of the war



I have nothing to offer
but blood, toil, tears and sweat.

We have before us
an ordeal of the most grievous kind.
We have before us
many, many long months of struggle
and of suffering.

*May 13, 1940
Speech to the House of Commons
upon becoming the Prime Minister*



You ask what is our policy?

I will say: It is to wage war,
by sea, land and air, with all our might
and with all the strength that God can give us:
to wage war against a monstrous tyranny, never surpassed
in the dark, lamentable catalogue of human crime.

That is our policy.

You ask what is our aim?

I can answer in one word: Victory—
victory at all costs, victory in spite of all terror,
victory, however long and hard the road may be;
for without victory, there is no survival.

May 13, 1940

*Speech to the House of Commons
upon becoming the Prime Minister*



We shall not flag or fail.

We shall go on to the end, we shall fight in France,
we shall fight on the seas and oceans,
we shall fight with growing confidence and growing strength
in the air, we shall defend our island,
whatever the cost may be,
we shall fight on the beaches,
we shall fight on the landing grounds,
we shall fight in the fields and in the streets,
we shall fight in the hills;
we shall never surrender,
and even if, which I do not for a moment believe,
this island or a large part of it were subjugated and starving,
then our Empire beyond the seas,
armed and guarded by the British Fleet,
would carry on the struggle,
until, in God's good time, the new world,
with all its power and might, steps forth to the rescue
and the liberation of the old.

June 4, 1940

*Speech to the House of Commons
following the evacuation of Dunkerque*



The whole fury and might of the enemy
must very soon be turned on us . . .
If we can stand up to him,
all Europe may be free
and the life of the world may move forward
into broad, sunlit uplands.
But if we fail,
then the whole world, including the United States,
including all that we have known and cared for,
will sink into the abyss of a new dark age . . .
Let us therefore brace ourselves to our duties,
and so bear ourselves that, if the British Empire
and its Commonwealth last for a thousand years,
men will still say,
'This was their finest hour.'

June 18, 1940

*Speech to the House of Commons
on the war situation*



Today is the fourteenth of July,
the national festival of France . . .

I proclaim my faith
that some of us will live to see a fourteenth of July
when a liberated France will once again
rejoice in her greatness and in her glory,
and once again stand forward
as the champion of the freedom and the rights of man.
When that day dawns, as dawn it will,
the soul of France will turn
with comprehension and with kindness
to those Frenchmen and Frenchwomen, wherever they may be,
who in the darkest hour did not despair
of the Republic.

July 14, 1940

Broadcast address

three weeks after the fall of France



This is no war of chieftains or of princes,
of dynasties or national ambition;
it is a war of peoples
and of causes.

There are vast numbers
not only in this island but in every land,
who will render faithful service in this war,
but whose names will never be known,
whose deeds will never be recorded.

This is a war of the unknown warriors;
but let all strive without failing in faith or in duty,
and the dark curse of Hitler
will be lifted from our age.

July 14, 1940

Broadcast address

three weeks after the fall of France



The gratitude of every home in our island,
in our Empire, and indeed throughout the world,
except in the abodes of the guilty,
goes out to the British airmen,
who, undaunted by odds,
unwearied in their constant challenge and mortal danger,
are turning the tide of the world war
by their prowess and by their devotion.
Never in the field of human conflict
was so much owed by so many to so few.

August 20, 1940

*Speech to the House of Commons
reviewing the first year of the war*



This wicked little man . . . has now resolved
to try to break our famous island race
by a process of indiscriminate slaughter and destruction.
What he has done is
to kindle a fire in British hearts,
here and all over the world,
which will glow long after all traces of the conflagration
he has caused in London have been removed.
He has lighted a fire
which will burn with a steady and consuming flame
until the last vestiges of Nazi tyranny
have been burnt out of Europe,
and until the Old World—and the New—
can join hands to rebuild
the temples of man's freedom and man's honour,
upon foundations that will not soon or easily be overthrown.

September 11, 1940

Broadcast address

following the fire-bombing of London



We are waiting
for the long-promised
invasion.

So are the fishes.

*October 21, 1940
Broadcast address
to the people of France*



The morning will come.

Brightly will it shine on the brave and true,
kindly upon all who suffer for the cause,
glorious upon the tombs of heroes.

Thus will shine the dawn.

Vive la France!

Long live also the forward march
of the common people in all the lands
towards their just and full inheritance,
and towards the broader and fuller age.

*October 21, 1940
Broadcast address
to the people of France*



Put your confidence in us.

Give us your faith and your blessing,
and, under Providence, all will be well.

We shall not fail or falter;
we shall not weaken or tire.

Neither the sudden shock of battle,
nor the long-drawn trials of vigilance and exertion
will wear us down.

Give us the tools,
and we will finish the job.

*February 9, 1941
Broadcast address
on the war situation
and acknowledging greetings from President Roosevelt*



At four o'clock this morning
Hitler attacked and invaded Russia . . .
Without declaration of war, without even an ultimatum,
German bombs rained down from the air upon the Russian cities,
the German troops violated the frontiers . . .
So now this bloodthirsty guttersnipe
must launch his mechanized armies upon new fields
of slaughter, pillage and destruction.
Poor as are the Russian peasants, workmen and soldiers,
he must steal from them their daily bread;
he must devour their harvests;
he must rob them of the oil which drives their ploughs . . .

Any man or State who fights on against Nazidom
will have our aid.
And any man or State who marches with Hitler
is our foe.

We shall give whatever help we can
to Russia and the Russian people.

*June 22, 1941
Broadcast address
on the German invasion of Russia*



We ask no favours of the enemy.
We seek from them no compunction.
On the contrary . . . the people of London
with one voice would say to Hitler:
'You have committed every crime under the sun.
Where you have been least resisted
there you have been the most brutal . . .
We will have no truce or parley with you,
or the grisly gang who work your wicked will.
You do your worst—
and we will do our best.'

July 14, 1941

*Speech at the London County Council
after a review of the Civil Defence Services*



The V sign is the symbol
of the unconquerable will of the occupied territories,
and a portent of the fate awaiting the Nazi tyranny.
So long as the peoples of Europe
continue to refuse all collaboration with the invader,
it is sure that his cause will perish,
and that Europe will be liberated.

July 20, 1941

Message to the peoples of Europe



The meeting was . . . symbolic.

That is its prime importance.

It symbolizes,

in a form and manner which everyone can understand

in every land and in every clime,

the deep underlying unities which stir

and at decisive moments rule

the English-speaking peoples throughout the world . . .

This was a meeting which marks for ever

in the pages of history

the taking-up by the English-speaking nations,

amid all this peril, tumult and confusion,

of the guidance of the fortunes of the broad toiling masses

in all the continents; and our loyal effort

without any clog of selfish interest to lead them forward

out of the miseries into which they have been plunged

back to the broad highroad

of freedom and justice.

August 24, 1941

Broadcast address

*following the meeting with President Roosevelt
"somewhere in the Atlantic"*



Now that the issue is joined in the most direct manner,
it only remains for the two great democracies
to face their task with whatever strength God may give them . . .
We have no reason to doubt the justice of our cause
or that our strength and will-power
will be sufficient to sustain it.
We have at least four-fifths of the population
of the globe upon our side.
We are responsible for their safety and for their future.
In the past we have had a light which flickered,
in the present we have a light which flames,
and in the future there will be a light
which shines over all the land and sea.

*December 8, 1941
Speech to the House of Commons
following Japan's attack on Hawaii and Asia*



We did not make this war, we did not seek it.

We did all we could to avoid it . . .

We went so far at times in trying to avoid it
as to be almost destroyed by it when it broke upon us.

But that dangerous corner has been turned . . .

The peoples of the British Empire . . .

are a tough and hardy lot.

We have not journeyed all this way
across the centuries, across the oceans,
across the mountains, across the prairies,
because we are made of sugar candy.

December 30, 1941

*Speech to the Canadian Senate and House of Commons
on the war situation*



There is a winter, you know, in Russia.

For a good many months

the temperature is apt to fall very low.

There is snow, there is frost, and all that.

Hitler forgot

about this Russian winter . . .

I have never made

such a bad mistake as that.

May 10, 1942

Broadcast address

on his second anniversary as the Prime Minister



Rommel's army has been defeated.

It has been routed.

It has been very largely destroyed as a fighting force . . .

Now this is not the end.

It is not even the beginning of the end.

But it is, perhaps, the end of the beginning.

November 10, 1942

*Speech at Lord Mayor's Day Luncheon, London
commenting on British victories in Egypt*



After the war when a man is asked what he did
it will be quite sufficient for him to say,
'I marched and fought with the Desert Army.'
And when history is written and all the facts are known
your feats will gleam and glow
and will be a source of song and story
long after we who are gathered here have passed away.

February 3, 1943

*Speech to the Eighth Army at Tripoli
congratulating it on its victories in Africa*



We seek no profit,
we covet no territory or aggrandisement.
We expect no reward and we will accept no compromise.
It is on that footing that we wish to be judged,
first in our own consciences
and afterwards by posterity.

June 30, 1943

Speech at the Guildhall, London

upon receiving the freedom of the city



We, the United Nations,

demand from the Nazi, Fascist, and Japanese tyrannies unconditional surrender.

By this we mean that their will-power to resist must be completely broken, and that they must yield themselves absolutely to our justice and mercy.

It also means that we must take all those far-sighted measures which are necessary to prevent the world from being again convulsed, wrecked and blackened by their calculated plots and ferocious aggressions.

June 30, 1943

Speech at the Guildhall, London

upon receiving the freedom of the City



This war effort could not have been achieved
if the women had not marched forward in millions
and undertaken all kinds of tasks and work . . .
Work in the fields,
heavy work in the foundries and in the shops,
very refined work on radio and precision instruments,
work in hospitals,
responsible clerical work of all kinds,
work throughout the munitions factories,
work in the mixed batteries . . .

September 29, 1943
Address at Royal Albert Hall, London
at a meeting of 6,000 women



I have no fear of the future.

Let us go forward into its mysteries,
let us tear aside the veils which hide it from our eyes,
and let us move onward with confidence and courage.
All the problems of the post-war world,
some of which seem so baffling now,
will be easier of solution once decisive victory
has been gained, and once it is clear that
victory won in arms has not been cast away by folly
or by violence when the moment comes
to lay the broad foundations of the future world order,
and it is time to speak great words
of peace and truth to all.

September 29, 1943

*Speech at Royal Albert Hall, London
at a meeting of 6,000 women*



So far the commanders who are engaged report
that everything is proceeding according to plan.

And what a plan!

This vast operation is undoubtedly the most complicated
and difficult that has ever taken place.

It involves tides, wind, waves,
visibility, both from the air and from the sea standpoint,
and the combined employment
of land, air and sea forces
in the highest degree of intimacy
and in contact with conditions
which could not and cannot be fully foreseen.

June 6, 1944

*Report to the House of Commons
reporting on the D-Day landings*



When I look back over the wartime years
I cannot help feeling that
time is an inadequate and even capricious measure
of their duration.

At one moment they seem so long, at another so short.
Sometimes events are galloping forward at breathless speed;
sometimes there are long, hard, anxious pauses
which we have to bear . . .

It is hard to remember how long ago this war began,
and one can never be quite sure whether
it has lasted a flash or an age.

November 9, 1944

*Speech at the Mansion House, London
reviewing the progress made in 1944*



I conceived an admiration for him as a statesman,
a man of affairs, and a war leader.

I felt the utmost confidence in his
upright, inspiring character and outlook, and
a personal regard—affection I must say—for him
beyond my power to express . . .

It is, indeed, a loss,
a bitter loss to humanity
that those heart-beats are stilled for ever.

April 17, 1945

Speech to the House of Commons

on the death of President Franklin D. Roosevelt



This is your victory!

It is the victory of the cause of freedom

in every land. In our long history

we have never seen a greater day than this.

Everyone, man or woman, has done their best.

Everyone has tried.

Neither the long years, nor the dangers,

nor the fierce attacks of the enemy,

have in any way weakened the independent resolve

of the British nation.

God bless you all.

May 8, 1945

*Speech from a balcony in the Ministry of Health
to crowds in Whitehall on V-E Day*



The bomb brought peace,
but men alone can keep that peace,
and henceforth they will keep it
under penalties which threaten the survival,
not only of civilization
but of humanity itself.

*August 16, 1945
Speech in the House of Commons
following the surrender of Japan,
his first major speech as leader of the Opposition*



The morrow of such a victory as we have gained
is a splendid moment
both in our small lives and in our great history.
It is a time not only of rejoicing
but even more of resolve.
When we look back on all the perils
through which we have passed
and at the mighty foes we have laid low
and all the dark and deadly designs we have frustrated,
why should we fear for our future?
We have come safely through the worst.

*August 16, 1945
Speech to the House of Commons
following the surrender of Japan*





“As long as men tell about that time of terrible danger and of the men who won the victory, the name of Churchill will live . . .

“He is history’s child, and what he said and what he did will never die.”

—*President Lyndon B. Johnson*

“With the passing of Sir Winston Churchill the United Kingdom has lost one of its finest leaders and the world has lost one of the great men of our time.”

—*Former President Dwight D. Eisenhower*

“He typified man’s resolution to be free, and man’s courage to face and overcome those who would threaten his liberties and free institutions . . .”

—*Former President Harry S Truman*

“He, with Franklin Roosevelt, gave us our finest hour. He was not afraid of blood or sweat or tears—or anything else, for that matter . . .”

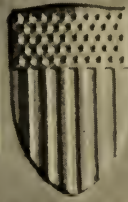
—*Ambassador Adlai E. Stevenson*

“Winston Churchill made free men proud to have lived in the century which produced him.

“But his greatest contribution was to the English language he so passionately loved and which he enriched beyond description . . .”

—*Former Vice President Richard M. Nixon*

PRESENTED
TO
SIR WINSTON SPENCER CHURCHILL
BY
PRESIDENT DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER
ON BEHALF OF HIS MILLIONS OF
ADMIRING FRIENDS IN THE UNITED STATES



FOR COURAGEOUS LEADERSHIP AND IN
RECOGNITION OF HIS SIGNAL SERVICES
TO THE DEFENSE OF FREEDOM, IN WHICH
CAUSE HIS COUNTRY
AND THE UNITED STATES
HAVE BEEN ASSOCIATED
IN BOTH
PEACE AND WAR

1951